

**CLAIM SET AS AMENDED:**

1. (*Currently amended*) In a vehicle having a riding space for an occupant, a shock absorbing structure for vehicles comprising:

a bumper member extending substantially along a length of the vehicle for receiving an external force heading from a front side of the vehicle to the occupant; and

a pair of shock absorbing members having front ends connected at rear ends of the bumper member, the pair of shock absorbing members having rear ends fitted into a pair of receiving portions of a vehicle body frame, the receiving portions being located rearwardly of a rear end of a floor of the vehicle,

wherein the external force on the bumper member is received by the pair of shock absorbing members fitted into the receiving portions located rearwardly of the rear end of the floor.

2. (*Previously Presented*) The shock absorbing structure for a vehicle according to claim 1, wherein a crushing amount of the pair of shock absorbing members is referred to as an effective crushing length of the pair of shock absorbing members, the effective crushing length being the length from the front end of the vehicle body to a front end of the riding space.

3. (*Previously Presented*) The shock absorbing structure for a vehicle according to claim 1, wherein the bumper member is a U-shaped member that includes a front portion for engaging an obstruction and rearwardly extending portions that project rearwardly from the front

portion of the bumper member, said rearwardly extending portions being disposed adjacent to the pair of shock absorbing members for absorbing a shock during an accident.

4. *(Previously Presented)* The shock absorbing structure for a vehicle according to claim 3, wherein the shocking absorbing members are of a predetermined length that corresponds to a distance between the front portion of the bumper member to a front portion of the vehicle riding space.

5. *(Currently amended)* In a vehicle having a riding space for an occupant, a shock absorbing structure for vehicles comprising:

a bumper member extending from a front of the vehicle and substantially along sides of the riding space for receiving an external force heading from the front to the occupant and for absorbing a side force; and

a pair of shock absorbing members connected at rear ends of the bumper member, the pair of shock absorbing members being disposed in receiving portions of a vehicle body frame located rearwardly of a rear end of the floor and adjacent to right and left sides of a seat of the vehicle,

wherein the external force on the bumper member is received by the pair of shock absorbing members fitted into the receiving portions located rearwardly of the rear end of the floor.

6. *(Previously Presented)* The shock absorbing structure for a vehicle according to claim 5, wherein a crushing amount of the shock absorbing members is referred to as an effective

crushing length of the shock absorbing members, the effective crushing length being the length from a front end of the vehicle body to a front end of the riding space.

7. *(Previously Presented)* The shock absorbing structure for a vehicle according to claim 5, wherein the bumper member is a U-shaped member that includes a front portion for engaging an obstruction and rearwardly extending portions that project rearwardly from the front portion of the bumper member, said rearwardly extending portions being disposed adjacent to the pair of shock absorbing members for absorbing a shock during an accident.

8. *(Previously Presented)* The shock absorbing structure for a vehicle according to claim 7, wherein the shocking absorbing members are of a predetermined length that corresponds to a distance between the front portion of the bumper member to a front portion of the vehicle riding space.

9. *(Currently amended)* A shock absorbing structure for a vehicle for absorbing an impact by having a shock absorbing body projecting from a vehicle body crushed during impact, the shock absorbing body comprising:

an upper shock absorbing member disposed on an upper side; and

a lower shock absorbing member disposed below the upper shock absorbing member,

wherein the upper and the lower shock absorbing members are formed of two types of members having different crushing features, and

wherein the upper and the lower shock absorbing members have rear sides mounted on the vehicle body ~~are mounted over a front wheel of the vehicle and at a position that is rearward~~

of a center of the front wheel, and have front sides which project forwardly of the front wheel by a predetermined length.

10. *(Previously Presented)* The shock absorbing structure for a vehicle according to claim 9, wherein the lower shock absorbing member is easily deformable by a low-load in comparison with the upper shock absorbing member.

11. *(Currently amended)* The shock absorbing structure for a vehicle according to claim 9, wherein the ~~two types of~~ upper and the lower shock absorbing members are constructed of foamed resin made of the same material but having different crushing features due to a difference in density, the foamed resin material filling spaces within the upper and the lower shock absorbing members from the front sides to the rear sides thereof.

12. *(Previously Presented)* The shock absorbing structure for a vehicle according to claim 9, wherein said shocking absorbing body has an angular C-shape.

13. *(Currently Amended)* The shock absorbing structure for a vehicle according to claim 9, wherein said upper shock absorbing member is spaced at a predetermined distance relative to said lower shock absorbing member.

14. *(Currently Amended)* The shock absorbing structure for a vehicle according to claim 1, wherein the bumper member is formed with a bent stepwise shape with three straight sections when viewed in a side view.

15. *(Previously Presented)* The shock absorbing structure for a vehicle according to claim 5, wherein the bumper member has a substantially straight view when viewed in a side view.

16. *(Previously Presented)* The shock absorbing structure for a vehicle according to claim 9, wherein a rear wall of the shock absorbing body is curved in order to be fittingly mounted on a front cover of the vehicle.